

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 66

Commemorating the 175th anniversary of the commencement of the special relationship between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 6), 2008

Mr. WEBB (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. WARNER, Mr. DODD, Mr. HAGEL, Mrs. BOXER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Commemorating the 175th anniversary of the commencement of the special relationship between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand.

Whereas 2008 marks the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand in 1833, during President Andrew Jackson's administration and the reign of King Rama III, and the commencement of the relationship between the 2 countries;

Whereas Thailand was the first treaty ally of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region and remains a steadfast friend with shared values of freedom, democracy, and liberty;

Whereas, in December 2003, the United States designated Thailand as a major ally outside the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which improved the security of both countries, particularly by facilitating joint counterterrorism efforts;

Whereas, for more than a quarter century, Thailand has been the host country of Cobra Gold, the United States Pacific Command's annual multinational military training exercise, designed to ensure regional peace and promote regional security cooperation;

Whereas, in the wake of the tragic 2004 tsunami, the United States and Thailand launched joint relief operations from Utapao, Thailand, strengthening the overall capacity of the forces involved in providing relief and setting the model for effective humanitarian operations throughout the entire region affected by the deadly tsunami;

Whereas Thailand is a key partner of the United States in Southeast Asia and has supported closer relations between the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

Whereas, on June 22, 2006, Congress agreed to House Concurrent Resolution 409, 109th Congress, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the ascension to the throne of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand;

Whereas, on December 5, 2007, the people of Thailand celebrated the 80th birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the world's longest-serving monarch, who is loved and respected for his lifelong dedication to the social and economic development of the people of Thailand;

Whereas, on December 23, 2007, the Royal Thai Government held nationwide parliamentary elections that are paving the way for a successful return of democracy to Thailand;

Whereas approximately 500,000 people of Thai descent live in the United States, joining in the pursuit of the American Dream;

Whereas Thailand is the 20th largest trading partner of the United States, with bilateral trade totaling approximately \$30,600,000,000 per year; and

Whereas the bonds of friendship and mutual respect between the United States and Thailand are strong: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress—

3 (1) commemorates the 175th anniversary of re-
4 lations between the United States and the Kingdom
5 of Thailand;

6 (2) offers sincere congratulations to the King-
7 dom of Thailand and the people of Thailand for the
8 democratic, free, and fair elections held on Decem-
9 ber 23, 2007;

10 (3) commemorates the 80th birthday of His
11 Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand and
12 offers sincere congratulations and best wishes for
13 the continued prosperity of the Kingdom of Thai-
14 land; and

1 (4) looks forward to continued, enduring ties of
2 friendship between the peoples of Thailand and the
3 United States.

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